

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:

Reconsideration of the instant application in light of the above amendment and the following remarks is courteously solicited.

Applicant has amended the specification to update the continuing data.

Applicant submits concurrently herewith a terminal disclaimer to overcome the Examiner's double-patenting rejection.

In view of the foregoing amendment and the attached terminal disclaimer, Applicant believes the instant application in condition for allowance and an early indication of same is respectfully requested.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

Appln. Serial No. 10/713,390
Amdt. Dated 11/03/2004
Response to Office Action of 9/10/2004

If any additional fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

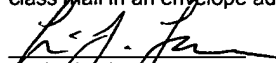
Respectfully submitted,

By 

Gregory P. LaPointe
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 28,395

Date: November 3, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on November 3, 2004.


Lori J. Larson